

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact:
Steve Hayes, Area Management Biologist
Eric Newland, Asst. Area Management Biologist
Phone: (907) 459-7274
Fax: (907) 459-7271

Upper Yukon Area Office
1300 College Road
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
Date Issued: 7/25/2012

2012 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #73 **Summer Announcement #65, District 6 Commercial Fishing Period #3** Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

An emergency regulation adopted by the Board of Fisheries (BOF) on July 17 allows the department to open summer chum salmon directed commercial fishing periods in District 6 during time of Chinook salmon conservation with fish wheels only. Fish wheels must be manned at all times during operations, and all Chinook salmon caught in the fish wheels must immediately be released to the water alive. This regulatory change implemented by the BOF is effective for the 2012 fishing season.

Summer chum salmon passage at Pilot Station sonar through July 18 is estimated to be approximately 2.1 million fish, which is above the historical median of 1.3 million fish for this date. The Pilot Station sonar passage combined with genetic stock composition analysis indicates a harvestable surplus of summer chum salmon is available for commercial harvest in the Tanana River drainage.

District 6: Commercial fishing will be open for one 7-day fishing period:

Period #3: 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 25, until 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 1.

Fishermen will be notified by August 1 regarding additional commercial fishing periods.

Commercial fishing will be restricted to fish wheels only that must be manned at all times of operation. All Chinook salmon caught in the fish wheels must be immediately returned to the water alive. Commercial fishermen should coordinate with the buyer on a daily basis regarding scheduling deliveries. All salmon harvested during commercial fishing operations must be recorded on a fish ticket at the time of sale. Salmon harvested and not sold should be recorded on the fish ticket as "not sold". This commercial fishing period does not affect current subsistence management actions and fishing schedules.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 or 459-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at 949-1320 or the Fairbanks ADF&G office at 459-7274.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.